

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1. - 5. (Canceled)

6. (New) Transporting apparatus for transporting workpieces through processing stations at which the workpieces are processed, the transporting apparatus comprising at least one articulated arm supported above a plane in which the workpieces are transported for transporting each of said workpieces in a transporting direction from a processing station to a next processing station without the interposition of an intermediate station, the articulated arm being arranged for transporting each said workpiece with at least a lifting movement, a pivoting movement about an axis perpendicular to said plane and a horizontal movement parallel to said plane, each said articulated arm comprising first and second arm components connected together by an articulation, the transporting apparatus further comprising a longitudinal crossmember mounted above said plane and extending in the workpiece transporting direction, a carriage guided on the longitudinal crossmember, each said articulated arm being pivotably mounted on the carriage, a pivot drive mounted on the carriage for effecting

said pivoting movement, a drive fixed relative to the carriage for effecting horizontal movement of the carriage and a lift drive for effecting said lift movement.

7. (New) Apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said at least one articulated arm comprises two articulated arms for feeding respective workpieces to respective processing stations, the two articulated arms being arranged as mirror images each of the other, and wherein, for each said articulated arm, a respective said pivot drive is mounted on the carriage, each said pivot drive effecting said pivoting movement of each said articulated arm in opposition to the other.

8. (New) Transporting apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising a transverse crossmember which is pivotable about an axis parallel to said plane and extending in the workpiece transporting direction, a drive for the pivoting of the transverse crossmember, a toothed wheel driven by the drive for the pivoting and a toothed member arranged to be engaged by the toothed wheel.

9. (New) Transporting apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said transverse crossmember is rotatable about an axis extending through a lengthwise dimension of said transverse crossmember and the transporting apparatus further comprises a drive for rotating said transverse crossmember about said axis of said transverse crossmember.

10. (New) Transporting apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising a workpiece holder mounted on each of said at least one articulated arms and a respective drive for each said workpiece holder for moving the workpiece holder in a direction transverse to the workpiece transporting direction.